[*English*]

Forest cover in Andhra Pradesh

1847. SHRI GANDHARA SANIPALLI: Will tha Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentaga of forest area in Andhra Pradash in general and Chittoor and Anantapur district in particular;

(b) whathar the forest area in the State has decraased during the past two years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to increase the forest cover?

THE MINITER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the State of the Forest Report 1989, the forest area in Andhra Pradesh in 23.0% of the total geographical area of the state.

The percentage of forest area in respect of Chittoor and Anantapur is 29.85 and 10.26 of the geographical areas of the districts respectively.

(b) As per the information available in the State of the Forest Report 1987 and 1989, the total extent of forest area in the State has remained unchanged (i.e. 63771 sq. kms.)

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Dravida Universeity in Andhra Pradesh

1848. SHRI MAHASAMUDRAM GNANENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposai from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up Dravida University in Chittoor district; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal for establishment of National University for Dravidian Studies In Andhra Pradesh was made by the Governmant of Andhra Pradesh in April, 1990. The State Government was informed that the University Grants Commission is not generally in favour of establishment of separate universities exclusively on linguistic considerations. The Commission have been of the view that the universities should provide for advanced studies and research in a variety of disciplines rather than those which operate within the confines of linguistic considerations. It would be more appropriate to strengthen Dravidian Studies by setting up departments in Dravidian Languages in existing universities.

Payment of Overtime to Contractual Security personnel in Air India

1849. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVAIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) tha details of total amount of emoluments being paid to the contractual security personnel engaged in the Air India;

(b) when their emoluments were revised last;

(c) whether the Air India pays overtime to these contractual security personnel; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) In the month of October 1991, an amount of Rs. 1,97,392 was paid by Air India